

Claim 11, line 6, after "~~the~~" insert --further--;
line 8, after "each" insert --of the--;
change "~~viewpoint~~" to --viewpoints--.

R E M A R K S

In the present Office Action, it was stated that IDS filed on December 11, 1998, failed to include a list and thus was not considered. Therefore, a list of the references cited in this IDS will be included with the next amendment that is submitted.

The claims were amended to overcome the rejection under 35 USC §112, as being indefinite. This included amending claims 7 and 11 to clarify that the "further scene" was being recited in lines 8 and 11, respectively. Claims 7 and 11 were also amended to clarify that "each of the respective auxiliary viewpoints" was being recited in lines 10 and 13, respectively.

Further, claims 1, 4 and 8 were amended to conform to United States practice by deleting the phrase, "characterized in that".

Claims 1, 2 and 8 stand rejected under 35 USC §102 as being anticipated or as being obvious over Chen. Claims 4-7, 9-10 and 11 stand rejected under 35 USC §103 as being unpatentable over Chen. Claim 3 stands rejected under 35 USC §103 as being unpatentable over Chen in view of Debevec. Based on the following, these rejections are respectfully traversed.

In response to the above rejection, it is respectfully submitted that the claims recite features neither taught nor suggested by Chen alone or in combination with Debevec. In

particular, such features include "computing a respective model for each input image, the respective model comprising information about surface patches located in the space of the scene, substantially each surface patch corresponding to a respective set of pixels in the respective input image", as recited in claims 1. Further, claim 8 also recites this feature.

In addressing the above feature in the above rejections, page 2, left column, lines 14-21 of Chen is being relied on. In this portion, Chen discloses pixel correspondence can be established by if range data and the camera transformation are available.

However, in page, left column, lines 5-12, Chen discloses:

"Our method uses the camera's position and orientation and the range data of the images to determine a pixel-by-pixel correspondence between images automatically. The pairwise correspondence between two successive images can be pre-computed and stored as a pair of morph maps. Using these maps, corresponding pixels are interpolated interactively under the user's control to create in-between images."

In view of the above disclosure, it is evident that that the pixel correspondence disclosed on page 2, left column, lines 14-21 of Chen is between two successive images. Therefore, it is evident that Chen does not disclose "computing a respective model for each input image", as required by the claims.

Further, since the pixel correspondence of Chen is between two successive images, then it must follow that Chen does not disclose "a surface patch corresponding to a respective set of pixels in the respective input image", as required by the claims. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that this feature is distinguishable over Chen.

The above-described deficiencies of Chen are also not addressed by Debevec since it is being relied on for other features. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the invention of claims 1-11 is neither anticipated nor made obvious over Chen alone or in combination with Debevec. Therefore, it is respectfully requested that the above rejections be reconsidered and withdrawn so that the present application may proceed to issue.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to credit any overpayment or charge any fee (except the issue fee) to Account No. 14-1270.



Respectfully submitted,

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July 6, 2000

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